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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q62534

Masashi HACHINOTA

Appln. No. 09/750,688

Group Art Unit: 2661

Confirmation No.: 8185

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: January 2, 2001

For: INPUT BUFFER TYPE PACKET SWITCHING EQUIPMENT

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-321768, published December 12, 1997.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2-158243, published June 18, 1990.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 5-14397, published January 22, 1993.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 7-66806, published March 10, 1995.
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2000-13403, published January 14, 2000.

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Information Disclosure Statement

6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2001-24641, published January 26, 2001.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

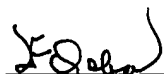
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Japanese Office Action with an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860
Date: July 30, 2003



J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

Q62534

A. The inventions as per Claims 1 through 6 of this application could have been easily invented by a person having ordinary knowledge in the technical field of the invention prior to the filing of this application based on the inventions described in the publications indicated below, which had been distributed in Japan or abroad prior to the filing of this application, and therefore cannot be patented as per the stipulations of Article 29, Section 2 of the Patent Law.

Description

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H9-321768 (cf. in particular Figure 1)

Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results

- Fields searched

IPC 7th Edition
H04L 12/56

F-Term Theme
5K030 (wide area data exchange)

- Prior art literature

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H02-158243
Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H05-014397
Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H07-066806
Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication 2000-013403
Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication 2001-024641

This Record of Prior Art Literature Search Results does not constitute a reason for rejection.